

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 2008 PACE Award Winners

### Metro Atlanta's Outstanding Workplaces for Commuters honored at 2008 PACE Awards

#### Winners recognized for their commitment and leadership in promoting commute alternatives

(ATLANTA -- October 16, 2008) The Clean Air Campaign®, in partnership with the region's transportation management associations (TMAs) and Ride Smart, the region's ride-matching service, presented the 2008 PACE Awards today at the Georgia Aquarium. Seven metro Atlanta employers, a property management company and three individuals were honored for their efforts to reduce traffic and improve air quality.

"We've seen tremendous growth in participation this year due to high gas prices, the gas shortage and increasing interest in the 'greening' of corporate America," said Kevin Green, executive director of The Clean Air Campaign. "The PACE Awards provide us the opportunity to recognize the outstanding work being done throughout metro Atlanta that has positively impacted traffic and air quality."

At the ninth annual event, 11 awards were presented in five categories (see backgrounder for more information on winning programs/individuals):

- The *PACE Awards* for overall employer programs were presented to four employers: **VeenendaalCave, Inc.** for small business; **Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Inc.** for medium business; **Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.** for large business; **City of Atlanta – Municipal Court** for public sector (government) employer. **Hines Interests Limited Partnership – One Atlantic Center** won the PACE Award for a property management company;
- The *GDOT Commissioner's Award* honored **Tad Leithead of Cousins Properties** for engaging community leaders to address regional transportation opportunities;
- The *PACE Setter Award* recognized **Mary Ann Johnson of the City of Atlanta** for her role in successfully implementing a telework program;
- The *PACE Innovator Award* honored **Cox Enterprises, Inc.** for encouraging employees to purchase fuel-efficient vehicles through its Executive Green Fleet program;
- **Aetna, Inc.** received the *PACE Spotlight Award* for excellence in a single program element - a highly successful telework program;
- The *PACE Starter Award* was presented to **Richard Wittschiebe Hand** for getting 65 percent of its commuting workforce to choose alternatives to driving alone;

- **Andy Smith of Rollins, Inc.** was the recipient of the *Commuter Champion Award* for promoting commute alternatives to more than 40 of his peers and changing the policies of his employer.

"This year's winners are outstanding examples of the leadership and hard work that continue to produce practical traffic and air quality solutions in the metro Atlanta region," continued Green. "We're seeing measurable results and a strong vision for a better quality of life."

The PACE Awards were sponsored by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle* and WABE 90.1 FM.

### About The Clean Air Campaign

The Clean Air Campaign is a not-for-profit organization that works with Georgia's employers, commuters and schools to encourage actions that result in less traffic congestion and better air quality. To accomplish this goal, The Clean Air Campaign, along with its associate organizations, partners with more than 1,450 employers to create custom commute options programs; and annually helps thousands of commuters find commute alternatives that work for them, providing financial incentives to get them started. The Clean Air Campaign also protects public health by issuing Smog Alerts and empowers students, parents and teachers to play a positive role in reducing traffic and cleaning the air through a multi-faceted education program reaching elementary, middle and high schools.

Each day, these programs reduce 1.2 million miles of vehicle travel and keep 600 tons of pollution out of the air we breathe. For more information, call 1-877-CLEANAIR (1-877-253-2624) or visit [CleanAirCampaign.com](http://CleanAirCampaign.com).



### **PACE Award, Public Sector** **City of Atlanta – Municipal Court**

The City of Atlanta Municipal Court touts an impressive 90 percent participation rate in its commute options program. Additionally, 20 percent of employees use transit five days a week.

The City of Atlanta Municipal Court also has impressive telework and flextime programs, which they formalized in order to be an example to other departments within the City of Atlanta. The Municipal Court has even received requests from other department heads to help pilot telework programs.

*Public Sector Finalist:* DeKalb County School System